

is quite evident that it pays well for the time and labor expended. Farmers everywhere now are fully awake to the fact that it pays every time to buy the pure seed at the advanced price.

Many Island farmers who went west on the Home-seekers' excursion have come back, satisfied that any place on P. E. Island was good enough for them. The crops in general throughout the West and in Ontario as well (judging from the reports in the agricultural press) are quite below the average, yet some 500 of our Island boys went out on the harvest excursion to assist in the gathering of it. The fall auction sales are now on. A lot of farms are still changing hands, for better or for worse. Land property here is steadily advancing in value; and in the course of a very few years, when we get connected with the rest of the world by the tunnel, which must come, Prince Edward Island will be one of the nicest spots to live in in America.

A lot of Island horses are going away every boat, and very high prices are being paid for good heavy ones; and, judging by the large number of choice draft stallions now in the stud, particularly in Prince County, the farmers intend to raise more of them. Prices are good this fall. Davis & Fraser, pork packers in Charlottetown, have now opened up for the fall trade, and are offering about 8½ cents for good well-fatted hogs, under 200 pounds. Old oats are worth about 50 cents, but the new will probably start at about one cent a pound. Eggs are 18 cents. Apples, about the only fruit in the market just now, are very scarce, and sell at \$2 to \$3 per barrel. Meat of all kinds is high, and those having a good flock of lambs to sell are in luck. Lambs are 4c. to 5c. a pound, live weight.

East Prince, P.E.I. C. C. CRAIG.

FIELD CROP COMPETITION.

Realizing the importance of keeping the grain crops of Ontario up to the highest possible standard, both as regards quality and excellence in grain, and in respect of freedom from other grains and from weed seeds, Hon. Nelson Monteith, Minister of Agriculture, set aside the sum of \$1,000, to be awarded as prizes to the first ten agricultural societies in the Province who made application to enter into a field crop competition, four prizes being allotted to each society for the kind of crop entered. The conditions attending this competition were that each entry must consist of not less than five acres. Competition was limited to members of agricultural societies whose annual fees had been paid, and they could only enter in the competition of one society, and not make more than one entry for each kind of crop. The fields entered were not to be more than fifteen miles from the headquarters of the society, of which the competitor was a member.

Where societies limited their competition to one kind of crop, the prizes were as follows, conditional on there being not less than ten entries: 1st, \$25; 2nd, \$20; 3rd, \$15; and 4th, \$10. Where two kinds of crop were entered, and competitors numbered at least ten, the prize money for each kind of crop was: 1st, \$20; 2nd, \$15; 3rd, \$10, and 4th, \$5.

While the competition was held under the supervision of the Fairs and Exhibitions Branch of the Ontario Department of Agriculture, the expert judges were selected by the Seed Division of the Department of Agriculture, Ottawa, and were Messrs. T. G. Raynor, Simpson Rennie and A. Elliott. Wheat fields were scored on the following basis: 10 points for suitability of variety; 25 for freedom from weeds; 20 for freedom from other varieties and other kinds of grain; 15 for freedom from attack of smut, rust or insects; and 30 for the apparent yield, considering vigor of growth and uniformity, size of head, stiffness of straw, thickness of stand and state of maturity. For oats and barley, 30 points were the maximum for freedom from weeds; 20 for freedom from other varieties and other kinds of grain; 15 for freedom from attack of smut, rust or insects; and 35 for apparent yield, considering vigor of growth and uniformity, size of head, stiffness of straw, thickness of stand and state of maturity.

The following, prepared by J. Lockie Wilson, Supt. of Agricultural Societies, shows the prizewinning competitors in each society in the various crops judged. In comparing the scores of the competitors in one society with those of another where these were not scored by the same judge, it must be borne in mind that such a comparison might not, apparently, mark accurately the standing in some cases, because one judge might score lower than another in all the districts in which he judged. For instance, a field of oats scored, say, 75 by one judge might be a superior crop to one belonging to a member of another society scored 80 by a different judge. This difference in scoring does not, however, affect the relative standing of the competitors in a society, because, in every instance, the crops of all the competitors of a single society were scored by the same judge.

FALL WHEAT.

Orford Agricultural Society. Judge, Andrew Elliott.			
Competitors (13).	Total score.	Variety.	Prize-winners.
Geo. E. Lee, Highgate.....	91	Dawson	1st
Wm. Speer, Highgate.....	90	Dawson	2nd
Jno. Wade, Highgate.....	87	Negro	3rd
Guyette Bros., Clearville.....	86	Walker's Reliable	4th

GOOSE WHEAT.

Markham Agricultural Society. Judge, Andrew Elliott.			
Competitors (21).	Total score.	Variety.	Prize-winners.
Geo. Robb, Markham.....	92		1st
J. W. Cowie, Markham.....	91		2nd
Alfred Mason, L'Amaroux.....	89		3rd
W. A. Robertson, Markham.....	88		4th

BEANS.

Orford Agricultural Society. Judge, Andrew Elliott.			
Competitors (9).	Total score.	Variety.	Prize-winners.
Alex. Clark, Kintyre.....	88	Pea Beans	1st
Thos. Lee & Sons, Muirkirk.....	86	Pea Beans	2nd
Jno. Wade, Highgate.....	85	Boston Beans	3rd
Jas. Attridge, Highgate.....	84½	Field Beans	4th

BARLEY.

Mount Forest Agr. Society. Judge, Simpson Rennie.			
Competitors (39).	Total score.	Variety.	Prize-winners.
C. S. Nicholson, Mt. Forest.....	84		1st
Jos. Williamson, Mt. Forest.....	82		2nd
W. J. Wallace, Mt. Forest.....	81		3rd
Davidson Bros., Harriston.....	75		4th

BARLEY.

Caledonia Agr. Society. Judge, Andrew Elliott.			
Competitors (15).	Total score.	Variety.	Prize-winners.
Jas. Douglas, Caledonia.....	94	Mandscheuri	1st
David Smith, Carluke.....	92	Mandscheuri	2nd
Isaac Wylie, Caledonia.....	89	Mandscheuri	3rd
Leonard Park, North Seneca.....	88	Mandscheuri	4th

BARLEY.

Peninsular Central Agr. Society. Judge, Andrew Elliott.			
Competitors (11).	Total score.	Variety.	Prize-winners.
J. W. Cartwright, Smithville.....	88	Bearded Barley	1st
J. H. Erb, Smithville.....	87	Bearded Barley	2nd
Moses Heist, Tintern.....	85	Mandscheuri	3rd
Frank Mingle, St. Ann's.....	80	Mandscheuri	4th

BARLEY.

South Dorchester Agr. Society. Judge, Simpson Rennie.			
Competitors (8).	Total score.	Variety.	Prize-winners.
Simon Charlton, Springfield.....	77	Mandscheuri	1st
Sylvester Charlton, Springfield.....	76	Mandscheuri	2nd
Samuel Dawes, Springfield.....	72	Mandscheuri	3rd
Jas. Smith, Springfield.....	69	Mandscheuri	4th

BARLEY.

Puslinch Agr. Society. Judge, Simpson Rennie.			
Competitors (24).	Total score.	Variety.	Prize-winners.
Burdge Gunby, Mountsberg.....	85		1st
Chas. Currie, Morristown.....	81		2nd
Jas. Weatherston, Puslinch.....	78		3rd
Andrew Elliott, Morristown.....	77		4th

OATS.

Mount Forest Agr. Society. Judge, Simpson Rennie.			
Competitors (35).	Total score.	Variety.	Prize-winners.
Daniel Murphy, Mount Forest.....	78	White Oats	1st
Jno. Goodyear, Mount Forest.....	75	White Oats	2nd
Alfred Hutchison, Mount Forest.....	73	White Oats	3rd
A. E. Caulfield, Mount Forest.....	73	White Oats	Equal

OATS.

Puslinch Agri. Society. Judge, Simpson Rennie.			
Competitors (27).	Total score.	Variety.	Prize-winners.
Jno. A. Cockburn, Aberfoyle.....	85	White Oats	1st
Alex. McLean, Morriston.....	77	White Oats	2nd
D. A. McNaughton, Morriston.....	73	White Oats	3rd
C. McBeath, Aberfoyle.....	73	White Oats	Equal

OATS.

Strong Agricultural Society. Judge, Andrew Elliott.			
Competitors (17).	Total score.	Variety.	Prize-winners.
Jas. Prior, Sundridge.....	84	Irish White	1st
P. Lamb, Sundridge.....	81	New Century	2nd
J. C. Cunningham, Sundridge.....	80	Sensation	3rd
Jno. B. Duke, Hartfell.....	79½	Storm King	4th

OATS.

Peninsular Central Agr. Society. Judge, A. Elliott.			
Competitors (14).	Total score.	Variety.	Prize-winners.
J. W. Flewelling, Caistor Centre.....	86	White Oats	1st
G. H. Adams, Smithville.....	85	White Oats	2nd
M. S. Merritt, Fulton.....	84½	Sensation	3rd
Moses Heist, Tintern.....	84	Irish White	4th

OATS.

Caledonia Agricultural Society. Judge, Andrew Elliott.			
Competitors (21).	Total score.	Variety.	Prize-winners.
Edward Gringer, North Seneca.....	93	Siberian	1st
Alex. Cowie, Caledonia.....	92½	Sensation	2nd
J. B. Calder, Carluke.....	92		3rd
H. McMarran, Willow Grove.....	91	Siberian	4th

OATS.

Verulam Agricultural Society. Judge, T. G. Raynor.			
Competitors (18).	Total score.	Variety.	Prize-winners.
Wm. Lewis, Dunsford.....	96	Siberian	1st
Jno. J. Robertson, Dunsford.....	94	Sensation	2nd
Wm. Murdoch, Dunsford.....	93	Waverley	3rd
Jas. M. Justice, Bobcaygeon.....	90	Irish White	4th

OATS.

South Dorchester Agr. Society. Judge, Simpson Rennie.			
Competitors (10).	Total score.	Variety.	Prize-winners.
J. A. Baker, Springfield.....	79	Siberian	1st
Levi Moyer, Springfield.....	74	White Oats	2nd
D. Clapton, Brownsville.....	72	White Oats	3rd
D. E. Shinley, Springfield.....	67	White Oats	4th

OATS.

Collingwood Tp. Agr. Society. Judge, Simpson Rennie.			
Competitors (18).	Total score.	Variety.	Prize-winners.
E. & C. Parkinson, Thornbury.....	80	White Oats	1st
Amos Kentner, Clarksburg.....	77	White Oats	2nd
J. H. Irwin, Clarksburg.....	72	White Oats	3rd
W. H. Mathews, Clarksburg.....	67	White Oats	4th

OATS.

Lucknow Agricultural Society. Judge, Simpson Rennie.			
Competitors (23).	Total score.	Variety.	Prize-winners.
Jno. McDiarmid, Lucknow.....	71	White Oats	1st
Albert Alton, Belfast.....	69	White Oats	2nd
A. Thompson, Clover Valley.....	68	White Oats	3rd
Jno. McLeod, Lucknow.....	68	White Oats	Equal

WEEDS ON THE ROADSIDES.

EVERYONE'S BUSINESS IS NOBODY'S.

Editor "The Farmer's Advocate":
It is really to be regretted that in so many parts of the Province this year no attempt was made to prevent roadside weeds from going to seed. This year's experience shows that the recent change in the Ontario law relating to the disposal of weeds on the public highway has been a retrograde step. As most people know, the onus is now on the owner or occupant of lands adjoining the roadside to see that the weeds are cut along his part of the public highway. Of course, it may be said that this was an exceptional year. The season was so very late, and everyone was so busy he hadn't time to look at weeds, let alone cutting them. Almost before some people were through seeding, harvesting operations were on, and some good-intentioned farmers simply felt forced to let the weeds go.

It is true that on a number of public highways scarcely a weed was to be seen. In fact, it was a splendid season for weed destruction, which makes it all the more regrettable that so many roadside commoners were allowed to develop seed. Where stock were allowed to pasture the highways, especially sheep, scarcely a weed or anything else was to be seen, for a part of the season, at least. In some parts, where mowers could be run, they had been, and to good advantage. I saw in some places a good cut of hay being taken from the sides of the highway, where the soil was good, and the road and ditches were so made that a mower could be run. In a number of places the scythe was used, but, I believe, in the great majority of places, more or less weeds went to seed this year on our highways. Many of these weed seeds will find their way to adjoining fields. Some of the agents helping in their distribution are wind, water, birds, animals, farm machinery, and rigs of various kinds.

My honest conviction is that the roadside weeds were better looked after when the onus for their destruction was placed by the councils on the road overseers. I would urge the ratepayers to ask for a return to that law, or a similar one, where it will be someone's business to look after the weeds. Where roads have been torn up with the grader, and ditches cleaned out for drainage, etc., a mower could be easily run along the roads, and the weeds could be kept from going to seed in this way. Where a good stiff sod obtains, but few weeds are seen. This year I have observed a number of places where just a few plants of blue weed, chickory or ox-eye daisy were locating. These are all very common, and very bad roadside commoners. Had these few plants been prevented from seeding, a number of farmers would have been saved a lot of trouble, and the weeds themselves could easily have been eradicated. Where the roadsides are torn up with the grader, rag-weed and May weed are very common. I have seen an endless amount of dock and many other noxious weeds, such as Canada thistles, perennial sow thistles, teasel, elecampagne, wild carrot, burdocks, etc., going to seed this summer along our public highways, and I believe something should be done to stop it right away. Every ratepayer is interested in this question.

T. G. RAYNOR.